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BULLETIN OF THE METROPOLITAN MUSEUM OF ART

RESPONSE TO THE PRESIDENT'S OPEN LETTER IN THE NOVEMBER BULLETIN

THE President's open letter, after briefly stating the financial situation of the Museum as respects administration expenses, closes with the following statement and question: "Reluctant as the Trustees are to depart from their long-continued policy of using income only for administration purposes, the majority feel that for the present and for the coming year, unless new sources of income develop, the Museum should draw on principal rather than diminish its present service to the public or restrict any of its present activities. What do our members advise?"

There have been many replies to this question, and the BULLETIN has thus performed its original function of being a means of communication between the officers and staff of the Museum and its members. These responses have differed widely in the advice given.

Several members have expressed themselves as opposed to the policy of a majority of the Trustees and have urged that the Museum should temporarily restrict its activities and set an example of economy. A larger number have said: "Draw on principal and do not curtail the Museum's wonderful work." A still larger number have suggested that dues be doubled or increased, or "that all members increase their contributions by five dollars for this year and next." Some responses have come in the form of checks, the largest of which has been \$5,000 and the smallest \$5. Many Annual Members have enlisted as Sustaining Members, thus increasing their contribution from \$10 to \$25. A few Sustaining Members have become Fellowship Members, with an increase from \$25 to \$100. While the returns are not at this writing all in, it now looks as if new sources of income had been developed sufficient to meet the deficit of the past year without obliging the Museum to draw on any principal funds, but the deficit of the present year still remains to be provided for.

To all who have answered this open

letter, whether by advice or by contribution, the Museum expresses its sincere appreciation.

LECTURES BY DAVID GEORGE HOGARTH

THE Museum takes pleasure in announcing a course of three lectures to be given on Thursdays in February and March at 4:15 o'clock by David George Hogarth, Keeper of the Ashmolean Museum, Oxford, England, and an eminent authority on the history, art, and archaeology of the Near East. Mr. Hogarth's general theme will be The Hittites; the subjects of the individual lectures, as follows:

February 17 The Hittites of Asia Minor

February 24 The Hittites of Syria

March 3 The Ionians

These lectures, held in the Lecture Hall, are free to the public without tickets.

MUSEUM CONCERTS

ON Saturday evening, January 8, was given the first of this season's free orchestral concerts in the Museum. The concerts, as in previous years, are conducted by David Mannes and the music is of the same high order. The dates of the concerts in the first series are the four Saturday evenings, January 8, 15, 22, and 29. The second series will be held on the four Saturday evenings in March.

The concerts, which begin promptly at 8 o'clock and last until 10, are free to all without tickets of admission. On the Saturdays of the concerts the Museum is open from 10 o'clock in the morning until 10:45 at night, thus allowing visitors to combine seeing the Museum collections with attending the concerts. The Museum Restaurant is also open on the evenings of the concerts.

At 5 o'clock on the afternoons of the concerts Miss Frances Morris of the Museum Staff will give a series of free lectures in the Museum Lecture Hall, on the Orchestra, with special reference to the programme of the evening. During the January series Miss Morris will have the assistance of Miss Kathleen Molony at the piano.